





HISTORICAL SKETCH

19

AND MANUAL

OF THE

SHADY SIDE

Presbyterian Church,

PITTSBURGH, PA.


PREPARED BY THE PASTOR,

AND PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SESSION.

PITTSBURGH:

W. G. Johnston & Co., Printers and Stationers, 57 and 59 Wood Street.

1876.



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HISTORICAL SKETCH.

IN connection with the laying of the corner stone of the new church edifice, on the 4th of July, 1874, and at the time of the dedication of the completed building, on the 19th of December, 1875, full and complete histories of our church were prepared and presented to the people. Such recent presentation of historical papers seems to supercede the necessity of preparing a formal historical sermon, according to the recommendation of the General Assembly, especially in view of the fact that we have but just passed the ninth anniversary of our organization.

From the papers referred to above, such data and incidents will be taken as may be necessary to the completeness of this historical record.

In the spring of 1860, Mr. Thomas Aiken, now deceased, and Wm. B. Negley, Esq., determined upon an effort to secure the organization of a Sabbath school in the neighborhood. Accordingly, notice was given, and on the afternoon of Sabbath, April 26, 1860, the first session of the school was held in the public school building on Aiken avenue, then known as Aiken's lane. There were about 40 children present. Mr. Aiken acted as superintendent.

During the summer of 1860 and the following winter, the school did not vary much in the number of its attendance. In the spring of 1861 its growth began, and as the population of the neighborhood increased, so the school became larger and stronger. In the fall of 1863, the teachers and officers of the school organized themselves into a Bible class and prayer meeting. In this twofold capacity, weekly meetings were held from house to house, and so continued to be, with occasional brief interruptions, up to the time of the organization of the church, in 1867. In the summer of 1866, the question of purchasing ground and erecting upon it a building, began to be mooted—this building to be used for the purposes of worship according to the forms and usages of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America. In this building there was to be a “suitable room for a Sabbath school and a select week day school.” Accordingly, a meeting of some of the prominent

citizens of the community was held at the residence of Mr. David Aiken, Jr., on the evening of August 10, 1866; at this meeting, subscriptions were made to the amount of \$4,550, for the purpose of purchasing ground and erecting thereon a suitable building. At the same time, the matter of a church organization was discussed, and steps were taken to ascertain the sentiments of the community upon this subject. In furtherance of this idea, the gentlemen present pledged themselves to pay annually for three years, \$580 toward the support of a minister. Committees were also appointed to procure additional subscriptions, to select and purchase ground, to obtain a charter, and to make arrangements for the erection of a building.

At a subsequent meeting, held August 27, the committee reported subscriptions to the amount of \$8,425 toward the purchase of ground and the erection of a building, and \$980 toward the support of a pastor. At the same time, arrangements were made for the purchase of the large and handsome property on the corner of what are now known as Amberson avenue and Westminster Place, and upon which our buildings have been erected. The building committee was also instructed to proceed with the work according to the plans submitted and approved. Mr. Thomas Aiken and Mr. John A. Renshaw were appointed to make application to the Presbytery of Ohio, for the organization of the Shady Side Presbyterian Church. This request was made in due form on the 12th of September, 1866, during the session of the Presbytery in the First Church of Pittsburgh; and accordingly, "Revs. S. F. Scovel and John Gillespie, and Elder Francis G. Bailey were appointed to organize the church, if the way be clear."

In anticipation of this action, arrangements had been made with the Pennsylvania Rail Road Company to hold service in their station house on each Sabbath evening until better accommodations could be provided.

The first of this series of services was held on the 9th of September, 1866, and until the completion of the building the following summer, they were regularly sustained, were largely attended, and were productive of much good.

On consultation it was thought expedient not to organize the church until after the completion of the new building; meantime the charter was procured, and on the 12th of January, 1867, the Board of Trustees held their first meeting and perfected their organization by the election of Mr. Joseph Dilworth president. On the evening of Monday, July 8, 1867, the committee of Presbytery convened the

congregation at the newly completed edifice. After appropriate religious services, twenty-nine persons presented certificates of dismission from other churches, and were organized, according to their own request, by the election of Mr. Thomas Aiken, Mr. John A. Renshaw, and Mr. Joseph W. Spencer to the office of ruling elder. These all having been previously ordained, were duly installed by the committee. At the same meeting, a unanimous call was extended to the Rev. Wm. T. Beatty, at that time pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick, New Jersey, offering to him a salary of \$1,500 per annum, to be paid quarterly in advance, together with the free use of a rented parsonage. After due consideration, the call was accepted, and on the 13th of August, 1867, the Presbytery of New Brunswick, at his own request, dissolved the relation subsisting between Mr. Beatty and the church at New Brunswick, and gave him a letter of dismission to the Presbytery of Ohio.

The newly elected pastor removed immediately to the bounds of the congregation, and entered upon his new field of labor. He preached his inaugural discourse on the first Sabbath of September, 1867. The Presbytery of Ohio met at Canonsburgh on the first day of the following October, and immediately upon its organization, received the report of the committee that had been appointed to organize a church at Shady Side. Their action was unanimously approved, and the Shady Side Presbyterian Church was enrolled.

Following upon the transaction of this business, Mr. Beatty's letter of dismission from the Presbytery of New Brunswick was presented, and his examination being sustained, he was received and his name entered upon the roll.

At a subsequent meeting of the Presbytery, held on the 18th of October, during the sessions of the Synod at Kittanning, the call was presented and accepted, when arrangements were made for his installation. This took place on the 24th of November, 1867, since which time he has continued pastor of the church. At these installation services, the Rev. W. B. McIlvaine presided and delivered the charge to the pastor; the Rev. J. Gillespie preached the sermon, and the Rev. S. F. Scovel delivered the charge to the people.

At the first meeting of the congregation, after the organization of the Church, held August 8, 1867, the building committee presented their final report, from which it was discovered that the church edifice had cost \$11,852.42, to which sum had to be added the cost of the ground, \$2,754.50, making a total of \$14,606.92. About \$5,000 of this amount was still unprovided for. A committee was therefore

appointed, and one-half of this sum was pledged before the congregation adjourned.

During the following winter, God's spirit was poured out upon his people, and a goodly number of sinners were brought to Christ. We received to the full membership of the church, on profession of faith, twenty-six at our spring communion, and were permitted to report to Presbytery, the following April, a membership of 72, an increase of 43 since our organization the July before.

About this time the act of consolidation passed, by which the city limits were extended to a point far beyond the boundaries of the congregation, thus making it necessary for us to change our name, in so far as to add to it the name of the city in which we found ourselves. At a congregational meeting, held July 1, 1868, \$500 was added to the salary of the pastor, making it \$2,000 per annum, with the free use of a parsonage, for which the church paid an annual rental of \$600.

During the following year the congregation became interested in the founding of a college for the education of young women, and through the liberality of some of its members, the pastor was authorized to promise \$20,000 toward the purchase of ground and the erection of buildings suitable for such a purpose. (See *Presbyterian Banner* of June 2, 1869.) This offer was promptly responded to by others, and such efforts were put forth as have resulted in the founding of Pennsylvania Female College.

At a meeting of the congregation, held April 25, 1870, it was resolved to proceed at once to the building of a parsonage; accordingly, committees were appointed, subscriptions were secured, a plan was adopted, the contract was made, and the work was commenced before the end of the summer. About the middle of December, as the workmen were finishing the plastering of the house, it was partially destroyed by fire. The loss to the congregation however, consequent upon this accident, did not exceed \$300, as the building was covered by insurance. It nevertheless delayed the completion of it several months, so that it was not ready for occupancy until the first of August, 1871. This is a substantial two-story (with finished attic,) double brick house, with all modern conveniences; which, with grading of ground, the making of walks and carriage way, cost about \$12,000. The contributions of the congregation during the ecclesiastical year ending April, 1871, including their "memorial offering," (which amounted to \$18,417, a large proportion of which was given to Pennsylvania Female Col-

lege,) aggregated \$25,144. At this date the membership of the church was 102.

At a meeting of the communing members of the church, called for the purpose of electing additional elders, and held on the evening of January 15, 1872, Mr. George A. Berry, who for many years had been a ruling elder in the East Liberty Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Wm. O'H. Scully were duly elected to the office.

Mr. Scully was unable to see his way clear to an acceptance of this responsible position, so that only Mr. Berry was at this time added to the session. He was installed on the morning of Sabbath, February 11, 1872.

At a meeting of the congregation, held December 23, 1872, preliminary steps were taken toward the building of a new church edifice, the growth of the congregation making it apparent that a larger audience room would soon be a necessity. Accordingly, a committee was appointed to examine plans, ascertain cost, and gather whatever other information might be of use to the congregation in such an undertaking. This committee presented a partial report at the next annual meeting of the congregation held on the second day of June 1873. It was then resolved to enter at once and vigorously upon the work to which it was so evident God was calling us. A committee was therefore appointed to solicit subscriptions, and after having again added \$500 to the salary of the pastor, the congregation adjourned. The work of the committee on subscriptions was somewhat interrupted by the financial troubles that so greatly paralyzed the business of the country, and so sadly deranged our monetary affairs. Yet, notwithstanding the unsettled state of things, and the pressure that was consequent upon the panic, the people responded to the call with commendable liberality. During the summer and fall, the subscriptions obtained amounted to a little over \$42,000.

At a meeting of the communing members of the church, held on the 14th of April, 1873, called for the purpose of electing additional elders and a board of deacons, Mr. Renshaw, who had previously retired from the eldership, was re-elected; also Mr. Scully was re-elected, and in addition to these, W. B. Negley, Esq., and E. M. Aiken were duly chosen to the office of ruling elder. Mr. Joseph Dilworth, Mr. Henry A. Breed, Mr. Robert Pitcairn, and Mr. John Layng were elected deacons. All of these, with the exception of Mr. Renshaw, were ordained, and all were installed on the morning of Sabbath, April 27, 1873.

Following upon the observance of the Week of Prayer the same year, God's spirit was again poured out upon the church, and a goodly number were brought to a saving knowledge of Christ. At our spring communion we had the privilege of welcoming 30 to membership with us, on profession of faith. In April of this year we reported to the Presbytery a membership of 151, being an increase of 42 during the preceding twelve months. The congregation had been growing steadily from the first, so that by this time we were beginning to feel very sensibly our need of a larger building. At a meeting held the second of April, 1874, the committee appointed to procure plans and bids reported, recommending to the congregation the selection of a plan submitted by James H. Windrim, an architect, of Philadelphia. After mature deliberation, the recommendation of the committee was adopted, and a building committee was appointed, with instruction to proceed at once with the work, provided the contractor's bid did not exceed \$40,000.

At a meeting held the following May, the committee reported that they had contracted with Mr. W. S. McKee for the building of the new church edifice according to plans and specifications prepared by Mr. Windrim; Mr. McKee to receive for the work \$39,500; the congregation to furnish the glass for the windows, to be at the expense of plumbing and gas fitting, and also to provide for the heating of the building. This action of the committee was approved by the congregation, and on the 14th of May, 1874, the ground was staked out and work was begun. On the 4th of July following, the corner stone was laid by the pastor, with appropriate ceremonies. An address was delivered by the Rev. Geo. P. Hays, D. D., and a historical sketch of the church and congregation was read by W. B. Negley, Esq.

REVIVAL.

During the opening weeks of the same year, for the third time, God was pleased to grant us a baptism of the Holy Ghost, especially from among the scholars of the Sabbath school. A large number were brought into the communion of the church. During the months of January and February, we had an accession of twenty-six on profession of their faith. We had received, both on profession and by certificate, 58 during the year closing April 1, 1874. Our losses by death and removal had been 12, leaving us a net increase of 46, and enabling us to report to

Presbytery a membership of 197. During the following winter, and especially in connection with the observance of the Week of Prayer, in January, 1875, we were permitted to rejoice in the conversion of many more. A large number of the students in the college gave evidence of a change of heart, and afterwards made profession of their faith and were received to membership in the churches with which they were associated at their homes. At our communion in March, 1875, 28 were gathered to the front of the pulpit, and took upon themselves the vows of the church. Before the close of the ecclesiastical year, the following April, the number had reached 40, including those who had been received on certificate from other churches. Our loss during the same period by deaths and removals had been ten, leaving us a net increase for the year of 30, and enabling us to report a membership of 227.

During the following 12 months, the growth of the church continued at about the same rate but it was more largely by certificate from other churches. Our last statistical report to the Presbytery, made several months before we had reached our ninth anniversary, shows our membership to have been 252.

Our annual accessions on profession have averaged a fraction over 16, and on certificate a fraction over 18, making an annual increase of 35.

The following statistical table, covering the period above indicated, may be of interest:

Number of communicants added on examination.....	146
“ “ “ certificate.....	169
Whole number.....	315
Number of deaths.....	15
“ dismissals.....	50
Membership July 8, 1876.....	252
No. of adults bapitized.....	13
No. of infants baptized.....	89
No. of funerals attended.....	52
No. of marriages solemnized.....	28

Of the twenty-nine original members, twenty remain; five have been dismissed to other churches, and four have died. The oldest of the four, and the second to be called to his reward, was the senior of the three elders elected and installed at the time of the organization.

The name and memory of Thomas Aiken are very sacred to those who were concerned in the founding of the church, and who were identified with its early history. The remembrance of his meek and gentle spirit, of his unselfish devotion to the good of others, and of his earnest desire for the peace, purity and prosperity of the church, will ever be fondly cherished, not only by his associates in office, but by all who knew him. His name is hallowed in our hearts and homes.

During the summer and fall of 1874, the work upon the new building was prosecuted with vigor. Before the severe weather of the following winter had set in, the roof was completed and the building was enclosed. Work was resumed in the early spring, and was continued without interruption until the first of the following December, when the completed building was passed by the contractors into the hands of the committee.

THE ORGAN.

During the summer, a contract had been made with Messrs. E. and G. G. Hook and Hastings, of Boston, Mass., for a three-manual organ, to be placed by them in the organ projection at the rear of the pulpit. Upon the completion of the building by the contractors, the instrument was promptly put in its place by the representatives of the firm, and an organ concert was given, interspersed with singing by the choir of the Third Presbyterian Church and other performers of the city, on the evening of December 10, 1875.

The architectural design of the instrument is in perfect keeping with that of the church, it having been built expressly with reference to its present position. It has twenty-three speaking stops, over one thousand pipes, and cost a little less than \$4,000. The carpeting and upholstering having been completed, and the furniture—all of which was made expressly for the church, and of uniform design—having been put in its place, a meeting of the congregation was held on the evening of December 9, 1875. Upon its organization, the building committee presented the following as their final report:

“The first movement towards the erection of a new church edifice was made at a special meeting of the congregation, held December 23, 1872, when a resolution was passed ‘That preliminary steps be taken having in view the building of a new church within two or three years,’ and a committee was appointed to examine plans, ascertain cost, etc., and report at some future time.

“At a meeting of the congregation, held June 2, 1873, a committee, consisting of Messrs. Bailey, Renshaw and Scully, was appointed to thoroughly canvass the congregation and neighborhood for subscriptions, for the purpose of building a new edifice and meeting the expenses of repairs of the old church building, and the present indebtedness, payable part in cash, and the balance in three annual payments. April 2, 1874, the congregation met at the call of the committee on plans for new church edifice, and the following resolution was then offered and adopted, viz: That a committee, consisting of Henry A. Breed, John D. Bailey, Robt. Pitcairn, John A. Renshaw and W. O'H. Scully, proceed to receive bids on plan No. 1, of Jas. H. Windrim; and if the building can be erected at a cost of not more than \$40,000, all stone, or brick with stone facings, they are hereby authorized to let out the work to the lowest and best bidder.

“At a meeting of the congregation, held May 11, 1874, upon the call of the building committee, Mr. John A. Renshaw, chairman, made the following report: ‘Your committee, appointed by the congregation at their meeting held in this church April 2, would respectfully report as follows: In accordance with your action at that meeting, approving the church plan submitted by Mr. James H. Windrim, we at once engaged his services to write out specifications on which to receive proposals for the erection of the building. These specifications describe the material for the walls as stone throughout, with the exception of the spire and pinnacles, which are wood, and slated; the surface walls to be what is termed rock dressed; the belt course and facings around openings to be smooth hammer dressed. The specifications cover all material and work, to the entire completion of the building, with the exception of glass, heaters, gas pipe, gas fixtures, and furnishment. After a full conference with our architect, and a careful examination of the proposals, it was decided to award the contract to Mr. Wm. S. McKee, the lowest and best bidder, for the sum of \$39,300, and \$200 additional for increasing depth of organ projection; the building to be under roof before the first day of November, 1874, and fully completed before the first day of September, 1875.

“The contract has been duly signed, sealed and delivered, and the contractor has given bonds with ample security for the faithful performance of the work.’

“On motion, the report was received and adopted. At the annual meeting of the congregation, held June 1, 1874, the chairman of the

building committee reported that the excavation for cellar and foundation was nearly completed, and the masons were about to commence on the walls; and a committee, consisting of Messrs. Dilworth, Bidwell, Edwards and Berry, was appointed to consult with the building committee and contractor in regard to the laying of the corner stone of the new church, and if the walls are ready, to have the ceremony on the fourth of July, proximo.

“July 4, 1874, the corner stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies. Prayer was offered by Rev. W. J. Holland; a historical sketch was read by Wm. B. Negley, Esq., and remarks and laying of the stone by the pastor, Rev. Wm. T. Beatty. An address was delivered by Rev. Geo. P. Hays, D. D., of Washington and Jefferson College, and the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Jas. Black, D. D., of Pennsylvania Female College. At the annual meeting of the congregation, held June 7, 1875, the following report of the building committee was read and approved: ‘Your committee beg leave to report that since the last annual meeting of the congregation, the structure has progressed under the contract entered into with Mr. Wm. S. McKee, and is now under roof, the spire and plastering being near completion, and the rest of the work in such a state of forwardness as to warrant the belief that the whole will be finished within the time specified in the contract. Your committee have also, under instructions from the board of trustees, superintended the necessary grading of the ground around the church and on the parsonage lot, as far as was possible, to insure proper drainage and disposal of surplus earth from excavation of cellar. They would also report further, that they have taken steps towards ascertaining cost and securing designs for gas fixtures, and stained glass for the windows, and would herewith submit estimates and plans of the same for your approval. These, with the necessary heating apparatus, the enclosing of the lot, etc., being outside of the contract for the church edifice, will require immediate attention, and we recommend that the proper authority be given to have the work done without delay.’ On motion, ‘the building committee was authorized and instructed to proceed to finish and complete the new church edifice, including the selection and placing of glass in the windows, heaters in the basement, and whatever else they may deem necessary to the occupancy of the church.’ Agreeably with these instructions, contracts were entered into with Mitchell, Vance & Co., of New York, for gas fixtures; with Carter Bros., of Pittsburgh, for stained glass; with J. D. McIlroy & Son, for heaters, and others for the work necessary to completion. Some

delays have attended the carrying out of these instructions, for which your committee is not responsible; but at length the work begun eighteen months ago has been finished; how well it has been done, we leave to your verdict. That part of our report which will most interest you will be found in the following facts and figures, to which we invite your careful attention:

The total cost of building, including organ, furnishing and improvements, amounts to	\$50,625 88
Total amount of subscriptions, paid and unpaid	47,017 00
	<hr/>
Leaving a balance to be provided for, of	3,608 88

The report closes with a detailed statement of expenditures, including a bill of extras amounting to less than \$300.

It was accepted, and after congratulatory remarks by different members of the congregation, it was unanimously adopted; after which a vote of thanks was tendered the committee for the very faithful and satisfactory manner in which they had discharged the duties belonging to their position.

From the above it will be seen that if there had been no shrinkage in the subscriptions, the actual debt incurred up to the time of the completion of the building, was only \$3,608.88. It was already apparent, however, that owing to the financial difficulties that had come upon the country, some of those who had subscribed would be unable to make good their obligation.

The following description of the building is taken mainly from the *Presbyterian Banner* of January 5, 1876, except so much of it as is explanatory of the accompanying cuts:

Description of the New Church Edifice.

It is located on the northwest corner of Amberson avenue and Westminster Place, with a frontage facing toward Fifth avenue of one hundred and ten feet, and toward Amberson avenue of eighty-eight feet, and the church lot surrounding it gives ample space for the admission of light and air, as well as approach by carriage ways and foot walks on all sides. The style of the building, as will be seen by reference to the cut in front part of this book, is the English decorated, or pure Gothic, in its outlines well adapted to its suburban surroundings, and in its details chaste and elegant, without being

elaborate and unnecessarily costly. The material of the walls is stone throughout, taken from the quarries at Derry, on the line of the Pennsylvania railroad. The general surface is what is called rock dressed, the tracery and facings smooth hammer dressed, and of a light colored stone that forms an agreeable contrast with the pinkish cream color of the body of the walls. At the southwest angle rises a tower of fine proportions, surmounted with a slated spire, in all one hundred and forty feet in height. The building is cruciform in shape, the main entrance being in the center of the Westminster Place front, the nave running north, with an east and west transept and choir projection in the rear. And here we recognize a departure from the stereotyped plan of the modern church edifice, which is the most noticeable feature in the building, in that the transept exceeds in width the depth of the nave and choir, or what is usually the long arm of the cross; the extreme interior width of the auditorium being 100 feet, while the depth from the front vestibule to rear of organ gallery is 75 feet. This will be seen by referring to the lithographed plan of the ground floor, in back part of this book. The seats are arranged in a semi-octagonal form, each seat facing the pulpit, and those on the sides being equi-distant with those fronting the pulpit, which is located at the central point from which radiate the aisles to each entrance door. The floor is stepped into three platforms, descending toward the pulpit, thus affording to the audience an unobstructed view of the speaker and music gallery. The seating capacity of the auditorium is from 700 to 800. Overhead is a gracefully arched open timbered roof, from the intersecting rafters of which depend seven large and richly colored coronas for lighting the building. The extreme height from floor to roof is 56 feet. The panels of the ceilings are tinted a pale blue, contrasting yet harmonizing with the walnut-colored beams of the rafters and arches. The side walls are colored a delicate buff. In the rear of the pulpit is an arched octagonal recess which receives the organ, the pipes of which are richly illuminated, and form a fine background to the pulpit and choir gallery. Under the organ gallery are rooms for pastor's study and the session, and in the basement of the eastern wing a large room for church sociables. The walls of the east and west ends and south front are pierced with large windows of beautiful design, filled in with richly stained glass which sheds a flood of mellow light into the building. The pews are of solid white walnut, and the pulpit, chairs and communion table of highly polished black walnut; the carpets and cushions are bright scarlet and

maroon. The aim of the architect seems to have been to adapt the beautiful details and noble proportions of the best examples of Gothic architecture to the usages and forms of worship of Protestant churches, and if the difficult problem has not been solved in the example before us, it may be safely asserted that a happy combination of the two ideas has been the result. We congratulate our Shady Side friends in having at a moderate cost completed a house of worship at once substantial, unique and beautiful, befitting the purpose for which it was designed, especially as the enterprise was undertaken and carried through in the recent years of financial difficulty and business depression.

Dedication of the New Building.

The church was dedicated to the worship of the Triune God on Sabbath morning, December 12, 1875. The Rev. M. W. Jacobus, D. D., LL. D., of the Western Theological Seminary, preached a most excellent and appropriate discourse from John 14:22-23. In the evening the Rev. S. F. Scovel, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, presented with great ability and clearness the subject of "Worship." The afternoon was made memorable by a Sabbath School jubilee service, at which admirable addresses were made by the Rev. John Gillespie, of East Liberty Church, and the Rev. W. J. Holland, of the Bellefield Church. The following is a copy of the programme used on the occasion:

JULY 8, 1867.

DECEMBER 12, 1875.

DEDICATION

OF THE

Shady Side Presbyterian Church,

CORNER AMBERSON AVENUE AND WESTMINSTER PLACE,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

REV. W. T. BEATTY, Pastor.

Sabbath Morning, December 12th, 1875.

EXCEPT THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE,
THEY LABOR IN VAIN THAT BUILD IT.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

1

DOXOLOGY.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

2

INVOCATION.

3

885TH HYMN.

(SONGS FOR THE SANCTUARY)

I Love Thy kingdom, Lord,
The house of Thine abode,
The church our blest Redeemer saved,
With His own precious blood.

For her my tears shall fall,
For her my prayers ascend;
To her my cares and toils be given,
'Till toils and cares shall end.

I love Thy church, O God!
Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye,
And graven on Thy hand.

Beyond my highest joy
I prize her heavenly ways—
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,
Her hymns of love and praise.

4

READING THE SCRIPTURES.

5

PRAYER.

6

366TH HYMN.

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming,
Adds new lustre to the day.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive and fears annoy,
Never shall the Cross forsake me;
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there, that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

7

SERMON,

BY THE REV. M. W. JACOBUS, D. D.

8

PRAYER.

9

HISTORICAL STATEMENT.

10

SELECTIONS OF SCRIPTURE.

AND

DEDICATORY PRAYER,

BY THE PASTOR.

11

THE USUAL SABBATH MORNING COLLECTION,
IN AID OF THE
GENERAL BENEVOLENT WORK OF THE CHURCH.

GIVE UNTO THE LORD THE GLORY DUE UNTO HIS NAME,
BRING AN OFFERING AND COME BEFORE HIM.

12

1031ST HYMN.

God of the universe, to Thee,
This sacred fane we rear,
And now with songs and bended knee,
Invoke thy presence here.

Long may this echoing dome resound
The praises of Thy name,
These hallowed walls to all around
The triune God proclaim.

Here let Thy love, Thy presence dwell,
Thy glory here make known;
Thy people's home, oh! come and fill,
And seal it as Thine own.

When sad with care, by sin oppressed,
Here may the burdened soul,
Beneath Thy sheltering wing find rest;
Here make the wounded whole.

And when the last long Sabbath morn
Upon the just shall rise,
May all who own Thee here be borne,
To mansions in the skies.

13

BENEDICTION.

AFTERNOON.

A SABBATH SCHOOL SERVICE AT 3 O'CLOCK.

ADDRESSES TO BE DELIVERED BY

REV. JOHN GILLESPIE, REV. W. J. HOLLAND,

AND OTHERS.

EVENING.

UNION SERVICE AT 7 1-2 O'CLOCK.
SERMON,

BY THE REV. S. F. SCOVEL.

ON SABBATH, DECEMBER 19,
THE SACRAMENT

—OF—

THE LORD'S SUPPER

WILL BE ADMINISTERED IN THE MORNING, AND A

Historical Discourse will be Delivered

BY THE PASTOR, IN THE EVENING.

The Board of Trustees, having arranged a schedule of prices for the annual rental of pews, it was announced that on the evening of Friday, December 31, the choice, with the privilege of occupancy for one year from date, would be offered to the highest bidder, it being understood that the premiums thus realized would be applied to the current expenses of the church. Pews were disposed of during the evening, the annual rental of which—including the premium paid—amounted to nearly \$6,000. Other pews and sittings have since been taken to an amount that puts the revenue for the year at something over \$6,500. At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, held early in January, \$500 was again added to the salary of the pastor, making it \$3,000 annually, with the free use of the parsonage; the increase to date from the 1st of January, 1876. This action was afterwards approved by the congregation, thereby making the salary double the amount named in the call. It may not be improper to add, in this connection, that always the salary has been paid promptly, three months in advance, and always the congregation has acted voluntarily and unanimously in increasing it. Moreover, Thanksgiving eve has each year been made memorable at the parsonage, by the sending of gifts, both numerous and substantial. Without ostentation or announcement, these free-will offerings, aggregating annually the value of several hundred dollars, are modestly sent in by a generous people.

The Sabbath School.

As has already been noted at the beginning of this sketch, the organization of the Sabbath school ante-dates the organization of the church by more than seven years. It has steadily increased in efficiency, as it has grown in numbers, until the present time. For several years the children of the Sabbath school contributed \$300 annually towards the support of a missionary among the Freedmen of the South, at the same time contributing various sums to the Boards of the church, and to other suitable objects. During the year ending September 1, 1875, the school raised \$689.25, a large proportion of which was appropriated to what was called the "window fund," the school having undertaken to pay for the glass for the new building. There is but one memorial window in the church, that piercing the west wall of the transept, having in the lower border the simple inscription, "In memoriam: Thomas Aiken, died 1873."

In the center of the middle panel is the emblem of our faith, "JEHOVAH," in Hebrew characters. The school has averaged, since the organization of the church, a membership of about 200, and its annual contributions to benevolent objects during that time have been as follows:

For the year ending September, 1867.....	\$351 13
“ 1868	359 84
“ 1869.....	351 94
“ 1870	315 07
“ 1871	249 77
“ 1872.....	292 57
“ 1873	563 07
“ October, 1874.....	544 26
“ 1875.....	689 25
“ 1876.....	459 17

Whole amount.....\$4,176 07

Of the 146 received to the communion of the church on confession since its organization, 77 have been from the Sabbath school.

Funds Contributed.

The contributions of the congregation, during the nine years of its existence, or up to the 8th of July, 1876, have aggregated \$142,800. Of this amount, \$78,417 have been reported under the head of "Congregational." It represents the amount actually paid toward the purchase and the improvement of our property, and the meeting of current expenses. This leaves a balance of \$64,383, that has been contributed to the various benevolent objects of the church. Our annual contributions have averaged \$15,877, of which amount \$7,152 have been devoted to purely benevolent work. Our actual contributions to the various departments of work represented by the boards of the church, have been as follows:

Home missions	\$4,662
Foreign missions	4,946
Education	3,936
Publication	364
Church erection.....	2,941
Relief fund.....	920
Freedmen.	1,819
Sustentation	410
General Assembly.....	145

Making an aggregate of\$20,143

Our contributions to benevolent work have averaged annually, \$50 for each communicant during the nine years of our existence. If to this we add all other contributions, the annual average per member is raised to \$110.75.

On the 1st of January, 1874, we introduced a plan of systematic beneficence, a brief outline of which, as presented below, is to be found in the backs of the books distributed in the pews:

Our Plan of Christian Beneficence.

1st. A contribution for the benevolent work of the church is taken every Sabbath morning.

“Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him, that there be no gathering when I come.”

2d. From the funds thus collected, the following specified amounts are deducted, viz: For the support of the Sabbath school, \$12.50 per month; for the “Commissioners and contingent fund of the General Assembly,” the sessional and deacons’ fund of our own church, \$25 per month; and for the support of missions within the bounds of our own city and Presbytery, from \$8 to \$12 per month, at the discretion of the Session.

3d. The balance of the funds are distributed monthly to the several boards and committees having charge of the benevolent work of the church, under the General Assembly, on the basis of the following schedule:

Foreign missions	25 per cent.
Home missions	20 “
Sustentation	10 “
Education	10 “
Church erection	10 “
Freedmen	10 “
Publication	5 “
Ministerial relief	10 “

4th. The session reserves the right to set apart any Sabbath for the purpose of taking a collection for any special object they may deem proper—the congregation always to be notified in advance, of said purpose.

5th. Any person desiring to contribute directly, or to make a special contribution to any object, whether in the above list or not, can do so by accompanying their contribution with a card, indicating their wish.

THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS ARE RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

1st. Let a certain proportion of income be solemnly set apart to the Lord, for the purposes herein specified.

“Of all that thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto thee.”

2d. Let this consecrated portion be statedly contributed in “weekly” installments, thus mingling our offerings with our worship, yea, worshiping the Lord in our offerings. Should absence, or any other cause, hinder the regular weekly contributions, let the omission be conscientiously remembered and made up at a subsequent time.

“Honor the Lord with thy substance.”

“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”

The above plan has more than met the expectations of the congregation; it has secured larger contributions than we ever realized before; it has been less burdensome; it has given every opportunity for the presentation of the claims of the boards, and it has supplied a fund from which the officers of the church can meet the assessments of the higher judications, and from which they can draw for such other expenses as are legitimate, without the necessity of a separate appeal, or a special collection.

The Benevolent Organizations of the Church.

These have reference, first, *to the wants of the field we occupy*; and second, *to the wants of the world*. They are, first, the Sabbath school association. This has general supervision of the Sabbath school, subject to the approval of the session. It also superintends the monthly distribution, by voluntary workers, of tracts and religious papers, and receives monthly reports from them of such changes as have occurred, or such cases as may need the attention of pastor, superintendent or deacons. Through this agency, 175 copies of the *American Messenger*, English and German, are distributed each month.

The organizations having reference to missionary work outside of our own bounds are, first, *The Sabbath School Missionary Society*. Each class is also a distinct organization, but is auxiliary to the general society, through which it contributes its funds, and to which it makes a quarterly report. By the contribution of \$5 within three months, any class gains the right to elect any one a life member of the parent society, to whom is issued a neatly engraved certificate bearing the signature of the President and Secretary of the general association. These quarterly meetings of the Missionary Society are attended with much interest, and are promotive of much good.

Second, *The Ladies Foreign Missionary Society*. This association has a monthly meeting for prayer and conference, and holds itself responsible for one-half the salary of a missionary in India, with whom is kept up a regular correspondence. During part of the time there has been in connection with this organization, a mission band called the "Willing Workers," whose nimble fingers have turned many a stitch for Christ, and have thereby helped to send the message of His love to the desolate homes of heathen children.

There has also been an organization of ladies, more or less complete, through whose agency the new church building has been furnished and upholstered, and by whom such entertainments have been given as have been promotive of sociability among the people of the congregation.

Such, in brief, is our record of some of the great things God has done for us, and of some of the little things we have tried to do for Him. These all have been years of blessing in our church life, and in our homes. By God's favor, we have found it good and pleasant for brethren to dwell together in unity. It has been our meat and our drink to do the work to which the Dear Master has called us here. Through all these years of service, God's banner over us has been love, and His goodness to us has made our hearts glad. He has done great things for us. To His holy name be all the praise !!

MANUAL.

CHURCH OFFICERS.

PASTOR.

REV. WM. T. BEATTY.—Installed Nov. 24, 1867.

ELDERS.

NAMES.	ORDAINED.	INSTALLED.	REMARKS.
Thomas Aiken.....	.....	July 8, 1867	Died June 5, 1873.
John A. Renshaw.....	.....	“ “ .....
Jos. W. Spencer.....	.....	“ “ .....	{ Dismissed June 16, 1873, to East Liberty.
Geo. A. Berry.....	.....	February 11, 1872....	
Wm. O'H. Scully.....	April 27, 1873.....	April 27, 1873	
Edward M. Aiken....	“ “	“ “	
W. B. Negley.....	“ “	“ “	

DEACONS.

NAMES.	ORDAINED.	INSTALLED.	REMARKS.
Jos. Dilworth	April 27, 1873	April 27, 1873	
John Layng.....	“ “	“ “	
Robert Pitcairn.....	“ “	“ “	
Henry A. Breed.....	“ “	“ “	

TRUSTEES.

NAMES.	APPOINTED.	ELECTED.	RETIRED.
*Joseph Dilworth....	By Court, Sept., 1866	June 1, 1868.....	
John Barton	“ “	“ “	June 5, 1871.
*David Aiken, Jr.	“ “	June 7, 1869.....	
Alfred Harrison.....	“ “ .....	.....	June 7, 1869.
W. H. Denniston.....	“ “ .....	.....	“ 6, 1870.
W. B. Negley.....	“ “ .....	.....	“ 6, 1870.
*W. O'H. Scully.....	.....	June 7, 1869.....	“ 6, 1876.
John A. Renshaw ....	.....	June 6, 1870.....	“ 6, 1876.
James S. McCord.....	.....	“ “ .....	“ 6, 1876.
*D. W. C. Bidwell....	.....	“ 1871.....	
*Charles J. Clarke....	.....	“ 1876.....	
*Henry A. Breed.....	.....	“ “ .....

*Still in office.

SABBATH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

Thomas Aiken.....	April 29, 1860	to January 2, 1867
John A. Renshaw.....	Jan. 2, 1867	“ September, 1868
Robert Pitcairn.....	September, 1868,	“ September, 1870
John A. Renshaw.....	September, 1870,	“ September, 1871
William B. Negley	September, 1871,	“ September, 1873
W. O'H. Scully.....	September, 1873,	Still in office.

THE PRESENT OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH.

PASTOR.

Rev. Wm. T. Beatty. Residence—parsonage, adjoining the church.

ELDERS.

Geo. A. Berry, *Clerk*; John A. Renshaw, *Treasurer*; W. B. Negley, W. O'H. Scully, E. M. Aiken.

The session meets on the first Thursday evening of each month.

DEACONS.

Joseph Dilworth, *President*; Robert Pitcairn, *Treasurer*; John Layng, Henry A. Breed.

The deacons collect and distribute the benevolent contributions of the church, according to the plan adopted, and have care of the poor.

Precentor—Richard E. Breed.

Organist—J. H. Gittings.

TRUSTEES.

Joseph Dilworth, *President*; W. O'H. Scully, *Secretary*; David Aiken, Jr., *Treasurer*; D. W. C. Bidwell, Charles J. Clarke, Henry A. Breed.

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD.

REPAIRS—Charles J. Clarke, D. W. C. Bidwell.

RENTING PEWS—John A. Renshaw, Jos. Dilworth.

SUPPLIES—D. W. C. Bidwell.

The board is divided into three classes of two each, and the members are elected for three years, so that the term of office of one class expires each year.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The congregation meets annually, on the evening of the first Monday in June, when reports are presented, and an election for trustees is held. W. O'H. Scully, *Secretary*.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

W. O'H. Scully, *Superintendent*; John D. Bailey, *Assistant*; Chas. D. Scully, *Librarian*; Duncan B. Bruce, *Secretary*; Robert Pitcairn, *Treasurer*.

SABBATH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

Rev. W. T. Beatty, *President*; E. M. Aiken, *Secretary*; Robert Pitcairn, *Treasurer*.

This association is charged with the care of the Sabbath school, and a general supervision of mission work within the bounds of the congregation. It holds monthly meetings.

LADIES' FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Mrs. W. T. Beatty, *President*; Mrs. E. M. Aiken, *Secretary*; Mrs. Jos. W. Spencer, *Treasurer*.

CHURCH SERVICES.

PREACHING—Each Sabbath, at 10:30 A. M., and 7:30 P. M.

PRAYER MEETING AND LECTURE—Wednesday evening, at 7:30 P. M.

YOUNG MEN'S PRAYER MEETING—Monday evening, at 7:30 P. M.

SABBATH SCHOOL—Sabbath afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

TEACHERS' MEETING—Sabbath afternoon at 2 o'clock.

NORMAL CLASS—First Wednesday of each month, after prayer meeting.

SABBATH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING—First Monday evening of each month.

MONTHLY CONCERT—Wednesday evening after first Sabbath.

LADIES' FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY—First Friday, at 3 P. M.

SABBATH SCHOOL MISSIONARY SOCIETY—Afternoon of first Sabbath in January, April, July and October, at 3 P. M.

SACRAMENTS.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is administered on the third Sabbath in March, June, September and December. The preparatory lecture is delivered on the Friday evening preceding each communion Sabbath. A communicant's prayer meeting, conducted by a member of the session, is held in the lecture room, on the morning of communion Sabbath, at 9½ o'clock, and also a general prayer meeting on the Monday evening following. A meeting of the session is held on the Thursday evening preceding communion Sabbath, for the special purpose of receiving applicants for membership, either by certificate or on examination. These applications can be made, however, at any of the monthly meetings, or at such other times as may better suit the applicant.

BAPTISM.

The sacrament of baptism is administered to adults upon public profession of their faith, and usually just before the communion service. It is administered to children on the morning of the Sabbath following communion Sabbath.

Our Deceased Members.

PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD IS THE DEATH OF HIS SAINTS.

KATE NEGLEY, November 29, 1867.

SARAH SHAW, August 27, 1868.

SARAH J. BURCHFIELD, November 8, 1871.

GEORGE LIGHTNER, March 13, 1873.

MARTHA HARRISON, April 22, 1873.

THOMAS AIKEN, June 5, 1873.

MARY E. McCLELLAND, July 4, 1873.

MARY DENNISTON, September 18, 1873.

NORMAN B. CAMPBELL, February, 26, 1874.

ELLA M. FABER, August 27, 1874.

MARY J. MILLER, December 12, 1874.

JOHN M. McINTOSH, December 4, 1875.

BARBARA WARMCASTLE, April 26, 1876.

ELIZA W. MAGINNISS, September 12, 1876.

MARY McGUFFEY, October 19, 1876.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

